

Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Earl Blumenauer (OR-03), a member of the House Budget and Ways and Means Committees, offered an amendment to H.R. 910, the “Energy Tax Prevention Act,” that would ensure that the Act actually does what its title suggests. The Blumenauer amendment would strike everything after the short title and replace it with an amendment to the Clean Air Act preventing the Administrator of the EPA from imposing an energy tax. As written, the bill would undermine EPA’s ability to implement the Clean Air Act, including its authority to limit carbon pollution.

“This amendment will help us find out whether Republicans are truly concerned about the Environmental Protection Agency imposing an energy tax on America,” said Blumenauer. “I too am opposed to any attempts by the EPA to impose taxes, which is why I hope my Republican colleagues will join me in supporting this common-sense amendment.

"My suspicion, however, is that Republicans do not believe the EPA is going to impose an energy tax, but instead are simply taking the Frank Luntz approach to environmental policymaking. They have perfected the use of poll-tested but wildly inaccurate language to attack sound science and undermine confidence in the laws that keep us safe. During its 40 year history, the Clean Air Act has prevented millions of hospital visits, asthma attacks and cases of lung cancer while strengthening our economy. A record like that deserves support, not partisan attacks."